Town of Upton



Massachusetts

TOWN MANAGER
Blythe C. Robinson

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BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Kenneth E. Picard, Chairman
James A. Brochu
Robert J. Fleming

Memo To: Board of Selectmen

From: Blythe C. Robinson, Town Manager

Date: August 24, 2012

Re: <u>Town Manager's Weekly Report</u>

Warrants:

Payroll: \$81,893.77Expense Warrant: \$824,576.59

For Your Information/Follow Up:

- We have received a few complaints this year from residents unhappy about the condition of some of the railroad crossings in Town. The railroad is about to undertake a project to improve those. Some will be replaced (Chestnut Street) and some will be repaired and paved in appropriate areas. When we know their schedule we will pass it on. The railroad has also completed about 90% of the project to install the insulation material on the wood pellet plant building to reduce the noise generated by the process of unloading pellets. As you know the Board of Health is monitoring this.
- I know I announced this at the board meeting this week, but for the benefit of all, the Leland Field project is about 99% complete. The contractor has performed the final fertilization, and our Parks staff has been mowing it as needed. It is in good shape, and because of that DPW and the Recreation Commission have been able to release it for use by the school for recess this fall. They are very happy about that as you can imagine! There is still a drainage issue to be resolved near the basketball court and the opposite far corner of the field that we're working on. Play by athletic teams will still be delayed until at least the end of spring, 2013. Special thanks go out to John Johnson and Gary Harper for all of their efforts to renovate this field and get it in tip top condition.
- Work continues on the new website. We expect to choose a vendor for on line payments shortly, and we're working with all departments and boards to get their information loaded onto the page and linked to appropriate sites. We've tentatively targeted an end of September launch of the site.
- On Thursday we held a kick off meeting with the new Owner's Project Manager (OPM) for the Town Hall project, the committee and the architect. The OPM was pleased that we have actually made more progress than is typical in schematic design, and we discussed some project aspects that we'll want to work through in the coming months.

- The next step is to schedule a meeting with both parties and the Building Official and Fire Chief to make sure we are aware of their concerns and preferences about the design of the project..
 - The Upton family got a little bigger about two weeks ago. Officer Isaiah Poxon and his wife had twin girls that arrived on August 15th. The family is doing well and we're all very happy for them.
 - We received 14 proposals from architects and engineers interested in working with the town on the possible design of the South Street Park project. Our intent is to review all of them and select a firm who would be ready to begin work if funding for the project is approved in November.
 - The chip seal bid came in today, in the amount of \$69,600.00. The work is scheduled to be done next week, depending on whether or not we receive rain. If so it may be delayed a day or so.